

1 District Judge James L. Robart  
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

9 PADMAJA BOYANAPALLI, *et al.*,  
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11 Plaintiffs,

12 v.  
13 ANTONY J. BLINKEN, *et al.*,  
14 Defendants.

No. 2:23-cv-1259-JLR

STIPULATED MOTION TO HOLD  
CASE IN ABEYANCE AND  
[PROPOSED] ORDER

Noted for Consideration on:  
November 27, 2023

15 Plaintiffs and Defendants, by and through their counsel of record, pursuant to Federal Rule  
16 of Civil Procedure 6 and Local Rules 7(d)(1), 10(g) and 16, hereby jointly stipulate and move to  
17 stay these proceedings for an additional 30 days. Plaintiffs bring this litigation pursuant to the  
18 Administrative Procedure Act and Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) seeking, *inter alia*, (1)  
19 to compel the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) and the State Department to  
20 adjudicate their § 1154(l) request and complete processing their immigrant visa applications; and  
21 (2) to compel Defendants to produce all responsive documents to Plaintiffs’ FOIA requests. For  
22 good cause, the parties request that the Court hold this case in abeyance until December 29, 2023.

23 Courts have “broad discretion” to stay proceedings. *Clinton v. Jones*, 520 U.S. 681, 706  
24 (1997). “[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the power inherent in every court to  
25 control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for  
26 counsel, and for litigants.” *Landis v. N. Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936); *see also* Fed. R. Civ.

27 P. 1.

With additional time, this case may be resolved without the need of further judicial intervention. Since the last filing, USCIS approved Plaintiffs' § 1154(l) request and informed Plaintiffs as previously agreed. Thereafter, USCIS notified the State Department of the adjudication. Although Plaintiffs have been seeking an adjudication on their visas for two and a half years, the Visa Bulletin reflects that the priority date for Plaintiffs' visa petition recently retrogressed. Defendants contend that Plaintiffs are not eligible for visa issuance because their priority dates are not current.

The parties are continuing to discuss how to proceed to either resolve the litigation or streamline any issues that may be litigated. Accordingly, the parties respectfully request that the instant action continue to be stayed until December 29, 2023. The parties will submit a joint status report on or before December 29, 2023.

Dated: November 27, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

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*I certify that this memorandum contains 331 words, in compliance with the Local Civil Rules.*

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## [PROPOSED] ORDER

The case is held in abeyance until December 29, 2023. The parties shall submit a joint status report on or before December 29, 2023. It is so **ORDERED**.

DATED this 27th day of November, 2023.

John P. Blit

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JAMES L. ROBART  
United States District Judge